

In Local —

YMCA honors seven most influential

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In Art —

The State Theatre in New Brunswick will present the acclaimed play, "The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess."

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In Sports —

Sports celeb
Sen. Bill Bradley

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CITY NEWS

Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

Winnie Mandela: Visits Newark for Pre-Kwanzaa Fest

To deliver keynote address at Seventh Annual Festival

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Words that are delivered with heartfelt meaning can go a long way - absolutely moving. Words written in 1996 by Frederica Bey, executive director of Women of the Million-Miler March went all the way to South Africa, a letter fashioned by Bey and delivered by Delcy Davis, founder of Black Cops Against Police Brutality, to the doorstep of Winnie Mandela, will come full circle when "the mother of the

South African struggle" arrives in Newark on December 17-18, as the keynote speaker of the Pre-Kwanzaa Festival to be held at the Robert Treat Hotel.

Davis was a part of the delegation to travel to South Africa on behalf of the United States, and was given specific instructions by Bey, who he referred to as his "spiritual mother."

"Frederica Bey insisted I hand Winnie Mandela this letter," said Davis. "I drove two hours to get this letter to Soweto, but she was not at home so I slipped it under-

neath the door."

It's obvious by Mandela's speech to join the Pre-Kwanzaa celebration that the letter made an impressionable statement.

"We want to have her here because we want the world to know how much we love and respect her," said Bey. "The black woman is always the only to be maligned," referencing the scandalous manner in which Mandela has been portrayed by the media, since being divorced from Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa. "We want to embrace her and roll out the red carpet and place rose petals at her feet to walk on, to

show how much we appreciate her being the mother of the struggle for freedom, justice and equality in South Africa."

The WISOMMM Mansion will be the host site for the reception being held in Mandela's honor on December 17 at 6 p.m., culminating into the Pre-Kwanzaa Festival, which begins with a day of activities and entertainment will showcase a celebrated line up of speakers and guests. Activist Dick Gregory, Dr. Tyrone Powers author of "Eyes To My Soul," actress, rapper and talk show hostess Queen Latifah; Martin Luther King, III; Sen. Clarence Mitchell, IV of Baltimore; scholar Dr. Leonard

Jeffries, activist Rev. Al Sharpton; Nia Force director Ras Baraka; Brenda Scott, councilwoman City of Detroit, Naughty By Nature and a possible appearance by First Lady Hillary Clinton. The festivities will start at 4 p.m. There will be African drummers and dancers, along with a children's village, vendors and a buffet.

Mandela, who is President of the African National Council Women's League address, will center on "Freedom for Africans in America Begins with the Struggle for Liberation in Africa." For more information call the event telephone (973) 297-1275.



Frederica Bey, executive director of WISOMMM

Part 1 Affordable Housing in Jersey City, myth or reality?



The Curries Woods townhouses development off Kennedy Boulevard in Jersey City lies very near the Hudson County city's border with Bayonne.

By Gloria Dulon-Wilson
Staff Writer

Where has all the affordable housing gone in Jersey City and Hudson County? This was the question under consideration by a panel of experts assembled at the Civil Rights Garden's Gothic Lounge in Hibernia Hall Assembled before a relatively small audience, comprised of a hand full of students and individuals hoping to provide some answers.

The event, hosted by Daniel Wiley, Academic Advising and Testing, featured speakers from Hudson County's Dept. of Health and Senior Services (KISS), FM public affairs program The Open Line; Annmarie Uebbing, director of Public Housing, Economic Development and Commerce; Maria Mai, deputy executive director of Development and Assisted Housing; Richard A. Pickett, of the P.D. N.J.C.U. Department of Economics; William Braker, Freeholder, Chairman Hudson County Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and Ramon Merica, chairperson, Public Relations Committee, Jersey City Affordable Housing Coalition.

According to Wiley, the show host, Bob Pickett, most of the funds for affordable housing has been re-allocated to build up the suburbs, followed closely by

funds for education, leaving inner cities stripped of the funds necessary to provide for their own communities. Industrial and commercial business began building more and more facilities in suburbs and rural areas, further draining the urban areas, resulting in a loss of 60 percent of the viable population, who, of course allowed the opportunity.

Pickett cited the civil rights suit brought against Mt. Laurel by the NAACP, during which

the discriminatory practice of building specific types of home that prevent minorities from living there. However, little, if anything is done to enforce the law in reference to the properties currently being developed on the so called "Gold Coast," along the Hudson.

Priced in the range of \$250,000 to \$2.5 million, these homes are definitely out of reach for a segment of Jersey City's working population.

Additionally, according to Ms. Uebbing, "There is no requirement for those developers. The abatement has been given and there is nothing in the contract for them to provide affordable housing. In lieu of providing affordable housing, the developers have designated a portion of their profits toward recreational development instead. In February our office

received \$900,000 from UrbCorp

as part of their contribution for affordable housing. We will receive \$2 million this year, but these funds have been earmarked also for recreational services."

When asked what the term "affordable housing" means, Uebbing remarked: "Each department had their own definition of recreational services," so she was not at liberty to say how the funds would ultimately be used.

William Braker, Freehold, Chairman Hudson County Trust Fund stated, "Government needs to say that it's not in the people's interest that people should have to spend more than 30 percent of their income and not have a decent home. This is the richest country in the world. We can and must do better than that. We must also work harder for the types of jobs that pay affordable housing seekers. And I'm not simply talking about the "Gold Coast," but jobs in the inner city, where affordable housing seems to have suffered the most. We're quite proud of what we've done in the county for affordable housing; but we need help and that help has to come from Jersey City."

Additionally, according to Ms. Uebbing, "There is no requirement for those developers. The abatement has been given and there is nothing in the contract for them to provide affordable housing. In lieu of providing affordable housing, the developers have designated a portion of their profits toward recreational development instead. In February our office

Editor's Note: This is a two-part series which will explore affordable housing.

Clement Price of Rutgers Newark Named Case Professor of The Year

NEWARK — The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has named Rutgers-Newark history Professor Clement Alexander Price the 1999 New Jersey Professor of the Year. The award was established in 1981 by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), an international organization which works in cooperation with the Carnegie Foundation and various higher education associations in its administration.

The selection of Price, a long-time resident of Newark and a 30-year faculty member at Rutgers, followed an extensive review and judging process. The award recognizes a professor's impact on and involvement with undergraduate students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contributions to the development of education in the institution, community, and profession; and support from colleagues and current and former undergraduate students.

"Since joining our faculty, Professor Price has profoundly influenced generations of history students while playing a central role in the development of Rutgers University, and the revitalization of Newark," said Steven Diner, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. "I am delighted to see him gain this national recognition, which is so richly deserved."

Price, a celebrated historian of New Jersey, is chairman of the Department of African American Studies at Rutgers-Newark, and teaches classes in African American history, U.S. urban history, and the history of New Jersey. In addition, he has taught a course on the history of Newark for 15 years. It was one of the first courses offered by the university that got him interested in Newark, and he introduced it at a time when most people knew little of Newark's past. In 1996, he helped initiate the Rutgers-Newark Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, applying his



Professor Clement Price, Ph.D.

scholarly interest in race and ethnicity to public understanding of American culture. Price received a B.A. and a master's in history from the University of Bridgeport and a Ph.D. in history from Rutgers.

Each semester students look forward to Price's tour of Newark, a popular component of his Newark history class. As a 15-year resident of the city, he's adapted the tour to reflect the dramatic changes within the city.

"When I began giving the tour 15 years ago, it focused on the devastation wrought on Newark by the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries," said Price. "Recently, I'm pleased to say that I've added on the tour the extraordinary changes in the city such as improved housing and low and moderate income families, better use policies and, of course, the construction of NJPAC."

In addition to his work as a scholar and teacher, Price has been involved in numerous statewide and Newark community endeavors. Most recently, he was appointed by Christine Todd Whitman to the New Jersey State Advisory Committee on the Preservation and Use of Ellis Island. In addition, her serves as consulting historian for The Civil Rights Garden at the Carnegie Library in Atlantic City.

Black, Latino and Democratic coalition leaders protest Essex County's layoff of 227 workers

NEWARK — A coalition of NAACP, legislative and Baptist leaders have joined Democratic and union members in condemning the layoff of 227 hospital employees whose jobs will end on New Year's Day.

Leaders joined "to lend our support to the Essex County Civil Service Workers, their families, and the other supporting groups who stand united today to state our dismay at the proposed layoffs suggested by some of our County Leaders," Rev. L. Ronald Durham, moderator of the coalition.

"It is never a good time to face a possible layoff, from one's employment, but it is especially

hard to face in light of this holiday season which is upon us. At a time when families should be gathering around the table to give thanks to God for all of His goodness, these families must gather to determine how they are going to make ends meet on with the loss of their income."

Leaders questioned that every option had been explored, he said, "especially since the county government is sending an unused surplus of \$4.5 million back to the state. Certainly it seems reasonable to us that if not all of the surplus could have been used to pay the salaries of these loyal workers," Durham said.

NATIONAL

BRIEF

FEDERAL RULE TO ENFORCE HEALTH COVERAGE ON CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS

(NINA) — Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala recently announced a proposed rule to make it easier for children to get health insurance coverage through their non-custodial parents. Through provisions in the 1998 Child Support Performance and Incentives Act, the regulation creates a standard form to enforce child support agreements that require non-custodial parents to provide for their children's health needs.

Published in the Federal Register, the regulation also establishes a standardized National Medical Support Notice, which makes it simpler and easier for employers to enforce medical support orders on non-custodial parents to include their children in their employer-sponsored health plans.

In developing the National Medical Support Notice proposal, the departments were assisted by a working group established to identify a standard national child support enforcement. Shalala and Labor Secretary Alexander H. Acosta announced the formation of the National Medical Support Working Group in March. The group is studying measures that would establish a non-custodial parent's responsibility to share the cost of premiums, co-payments, deductibles, or payments for services not covered under the child's existing health coverage. Members of the group include representatives from state child support and Medicaid agencies, employers, plan sponsors and administrators. A report will be submitted to both Congress in early 2000.

NAACP RECEIVES \$500,000 CHALLENGE GRANT FROM BELL ATLANTIC

(NAACP) — The Bell Atlantic Foundation has pledged \$500,000 to the NAACP to improve the organization's Internet-based communications system.

"This will enable the network of 2,200 NAACP units and chapters across the United States to more efficiently communicate."

"Effective communication, as well as efficient data management and maintenance, is critical in helping the NAACP carry out its core mission," said NAACP President Kweisi Mfume. The challenge grant "will help ensure the successful implementation of a communication network structure that will help us better communicate with our units and enhance the organization's reach to minority-interested non-profit groups."

Foundation President Suzanne A. DuBose said, "We at Bell Atlantic are committed to helping organizations like the NAACP use the Internet to promote racial and ethnic tolerance and equality."

"By extending the power of the Internet to its vast network of affiliates and making more effective use of information technology, the NAACP will take a big step toward bringing more people into the digital future."

POLL SHOWS STRONG ANTI-IMMIGRANT MOOD IN FLORIDA

MIAMI (IPS) — "Florida's welcome mat is wearing out," read a recent headline in the Miami Herald, the state's largest and most influential newspaper.

The paper was reporting on a survey conducted in collaboration with its sister publication, The St. Petersburg Times, on attitudes toward immigration and related matters such as the federal policy on Cuban refugees.

The poll found statewide support of 58 percent for curbs on legal immigration and even greater support for the federal government to do more to stop illegal immigration.

According to the article, respondents felt that Florida, one of six states where the bulk of immigrants tend to settle, bore more than its fair share of the cost of absorbing newcomers.

While the anti-immigrant mood was strongest among white non-Hispanics, the paper said, the poll indicated that none of Florida's three major ethnic groups — Whites, Hispanics and Blacks — were enthusiastic over the level of legal immigration into the country.

Rev. Jackson discusses leadership at Morehouse



The Rev. Jesse Jackson and Ingrid Saunders, vice president of Corporate Affairs for the Coca-Cola Company (center) recently met with Morehouse College campus leaders Shaun King, student government president (far left) and J.C. Love, student government vice president (far right) at a reception prior to Rev. Jackson's lecture at the college's Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel. Joining them are Dr. Walter Massey, president of Morehouse College, and his wife Shirley Massey. Rev. Jackson's remarks, "Leadership Strategies for International Diplomacy and Negotiation," contributed to the Coca-Cola Leadership Lecture Series.

NAACP wants state-funded SAT prep tests for minorities

By Tessie Borden

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Concerned that pivotal SAT tests are derailing minorities from college, the NAACP has proposed state-funded test prep workshops for students of color while also advocating that the tests be changed.

The group's national council voted this week to adopt a two-pronged policy. The NAACP will advocate for the additional preparation workshops to change the tests while the College Board's Ewing, N.J.-based group that administers the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

"As we encourage the College Board to make changes in the test, we at the same time say we want our kids to be successful under the rules of the game as they exist

today," said Jeffrey Johnson, NAACP youth councils national coordinator, at a recent press conference. "It's irresponsible to tell children to be successful but not empower them with the tools they need."

As part of the campaign's kick-off, the NAACP is also sponsoring free test preparation workshops today in eight cities: Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Fremont, Calif., the Crenshaw area of Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and Miami.

Johnson praised California's College Preparation Partnership Program, an initiative introduced in 1998 by state Sen. Tom Hayden to devote \$10 million to target five or low-cost test preparation classes at urban and minority students.

Bias in the SAT and the American College Test is reflected in dramatically lower scores for black, Latino and American Indian students compared to scores for white and Asian students, said Jay Rose, executive director of Princeton Review Foundation, one of several providers of California's test preparation.

The reasons for the lower scores are among the most debated issues in higher education. Rose said he said one is the "self-fulfilling prophecy." If an ethnic group is stereotyped as expected to do worse, it does, he said.

Another reason, Rose said, is

"aversion theory" in which minority students develop such a fear of the college entrance tests that they avoid taking them, wait until the last possible moment, or don't prepare adequately.

LaRouche loses his Voting Rights lawsuit

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

some DNC officials, have done behind their backs.

In a statement released Nov. 3, LaRouche said, "Obviously it is up to both President Clinton and the relevant DNC members to effect a public repudiation of the frankly racist policy" of Keeney and the DNC. "I would expect them to do so, publicly and promptly, simply as a matter of personal honor."

The legal argument was made in a hearing on the DNC's motion to dismiss a lawsuit from Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche and some Democratic voters from Virginia, Louisiana, Texas, and Arizona, before a three-judge panel in federal district court in Washington on Aug. 16.

The suit, filed in 1996, charges that Donald Fowler, then chair of the DNC, violated the Voting Rights Act when he ordered state Democratic parties to disregard the votes of thousands of Democrats in the 1996 Democratic presidential primaries and caucuses who cast their votes for LaRouche.

Key to DNC Attorney John Keeney's argument, ironically, was an opinion authored by Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas. They argued that national party rules were covered under the 1965 Voting Rights Act, but that the Act itself, among the crowning achievements of the Civil Rights movement, should be declared unconstitutional.

According to court transcripts, Mr. Keeney argued, "The dissent (Scalia/Thomas opinion) is going to put into question the constitutionality of the entire Act. We have four justices who say the Voting Rights Act is unconstitutional to the extent that it reaches even state parties holding state party conventions in covered jurisdictions.... Your honor, what I see is four justices who are going to strike down the Voting Rights Act as unconstitutional if it's extended." LaRouche said Democratic National Committee members are very upset by what Keeney, and

some DNC officials, have done behind their backs.

In the 1996 lawsuit, stemming from his failure to win the Democratic nomination in 1996 and originally filed in Aug. 1996, contained other constitutional claims. The complaint was dismissed, but the appeals court ruled Voting Rights issues to the U.S. District Court.

In dismissing the issue, the District Court ruled that the national party does not come under the Act, "and that the defendant state parties are not required to request pre-clearance of national party rules."

Peter Kaufman, deputy press secretary for the National Democratic Party, added that the party is "very concerned about any misconception that the LaRouche matter might help to reinforce" to the widespread notion that the Act will expire in 2007 leaving blacks with no guarantee of freedom from voting rights discrimination.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have issued clarifying statements to reassure African Americans on that issue, he noted. "That's another misconception we'd like to clarify."

"People hear something like that, and then you have people like Lyndon LaRouche come out to exploit the situation."

NAACP Congressional Analyst Carol Kaplan added, "They can't rescind the Voting Rights Act."

LaRouche had qualified for a position on the Democratic Party ballot in several states by spring 1996. But DNC Chairman Donald L. Fowler advised all state Democratic heads that LaRouche was "not a bona fide Democrat" as shown by his beliefs "which are explicitly racist and anti-Semitic."



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Religion

CITY NEWS A6

December 1 — December 7, 1998

RELIGION CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

BELLEVILLE — Christ Episcopal Church hosts a candlelight vigil to commemorate World AIDS Day. 7 p.m. (732) 751-9216.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

BELLEVILLE — Christ Episcopal Church rings in the holidays with their annual caroling 7 p.m. (732) 751-0816.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

WOODBRIDGE — The Woodbridge Township Cultural Arts Commission of the Baron Art Center presents a gospel choir concert featuring the St. James Roman Catholic Church. 7:30 p.m. (732) 634-0413.

WESTFIELD — The Choral Society of New Jersey, Inc. hosts its annual Messiah Community Sing at First Baptist Church. 8 p.m. (908) 235-2455.

Organization not to drop 'Southern' from its name

By Jennifer Coleman

SACRAMENTO (AP) — In a close vote that pitted conservative and more moderate factions of the California Southern Baptist Convention against each other, church members have voted not to drop "Southern" from their group's name.

The name-change proposal needed the support of two-thirds of the 2,000 Southern Baptists from throughout the state who were at the convention's annual meeting here. It got moderate support, with 40 percent opposing the measure. Supporters of the change said it would be simply a way to attract more members. Opponents feared the move would have shown a softening of a conservative movement within the church.

The name change was merely meant to prevent confusion, said Terry Barone, public relations director for the California Southern Baptist Convention. It was proposed by the Southern Baptists of the state who have shown a softening of a conservative movement within the church.

In a 20-minute debate on the proposal, other supporters said the "Southern" label fails to represent a church that is a mix of ethnic groups and amounts to poor marketing for the church. Many blacks are reluctant to join because the word "South" connotes racism.

Opponents wanted the name to stay for the tradition's sake. There are about 16 million Southern Baptists nationwide, making the Protestant denomination second only to the Roman Catholic Church in membership.

Prayer Corner



Seest thou what things ye have need of? Matthew: 33

kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these shall be added unto you. Matthew: 33

They Kingdom come, with power and grace, to every heart of man; Thy peace, and joy, and righteousness in all our bosoms reign.

GOD bids us, then, by past mercies, by present grace, by fears of coming ill, by hopes in His goodness, earnestly, with our whole hearts, seek Him and His righteousness, and all these things, all ye need for soul and body, peace, comfort, joy, the overflowing of His consolations, shall be added over and above to you. E. B. PUSSY

Grant us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, always to seek Thy kingdom and righteousness, and of whatever Thou seest us to stand in need, mercifully grant us an abundant portion. Amen.

Be content to be a child, and let the Father proportion out daily to thee what light, what power, what exercises, what straits, what fears, what troubles He sees fit for thee.

L. PENINGTON

Churchman Funeral Home celebrates a century of service to community

NEWARK — The waning days of the millennium mean many marvelous things to us all. Churchman Funeral Home is one of them because it marks the 100th anniversary of the Churchman Family in the funeral service profession in Essex County. The church will hold a service of Remembrance. The service promises to be a memorable occasion for the Churchman Family, as well as for the families we have served and all those who have had a part in their success.

As we usually consider ways in which they could make the anniversary celebration memorable, they have established a scholarship fund. By beginning this fund in its anniversary year, they will be able to bless college bound students for years to come. Their goal is to raise \$75,000.00 so that scholarships can be given from the interest of the fund. Funds that are raised will not be used in early way but for endowment. Money will not be used for administrative, advertising or other expenses. The scholarships will be open to students who have graduated from schools



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in the greater Newark area, and who are involved in any area of

study. For more information call, (973) 242-8454.

Song broadcast opens campaign for worldwide tolerance

By Carl Hartman

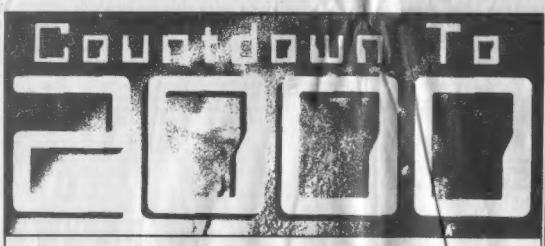
WASHINGTON (AP) — A song that promotes tolerance and religious tolerance across the globe is to be broadcast to 12 million young Americans as the start of a year-long campaign. The five-minute video of "One Song, Many Voices" stars singer-actress Vanessa Williams. The song was composed by Mark Williams, 16, of New Jersey, whose companies promote multicultural understanding. The video is to be aired on Channel One Network, transmitted by satellite

exclusively to 12,000 schools nationwide.

A choir of 40 young people organized by Black Entertainment Television, the network that produced "One Song," today on the steps of the U.S. Capitol. It was performed in New York at a luncheon of the Friends of the United Nations, a private support group which has adopted the song.

The performance is part of the United Nations' "Day of International Tolerance" established in 1995 at the suggestion of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Organization. In Paris, Koichiro Matsushita, UNESCO's new director general, took notice in a message Monday that nongovernmental organizations were emphasizing the day in the United States. The tolerance campaign, to be led by Dorothy Height, civil rights activist and head of the National Council of Negro Women, will include meetings across the United States. On Jan. 17, Delegates Donna M. C. Christensen of the Virgin Islands is promoting the campaign in Congress.



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POSITIVELY BLACK

Believe in black people

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"Black men must believe in black people (men, women and children). We must work 24 hours a day and develop a lifestyle that clearly states we are not for sale." Hakim R. Madhubuti

Energy follows thoughts.

From our thinking proceeds the issues (creativity, emotions, manifestations and behaviors) of life. It is imperative that we begin to understand the dynamics at work both internally and externally that are impacting and influencing us. As men of African descent we are under relentless attack. It has been observed that Black men are an endangered species. When we look at our communities we can readily see the dysfunction, frustration, lack of discipline, focus and purpose that results from a hopeless, nihilistic, self-negating and self-destructive ideology. We are in the minds, souls and survival of our race. As men we have a moral obligation to our ancestors, ourselves and our progeny to reassess our many responsibilities, our personal, professional, emotional and physical protection and defense of our people.

Yes, we are the targets of a thorough genocidal assault. Yet our ranks are being decimated daily as we succumb to the forces of greed, envy, pride and division, our critical lack of vision, hopelessness, cowardice, racial and historical amnesia which leads to self-groom-alienation, disarray, disease and dysfunction on a crucial front. Psychologically and social, Many of people pretend not to know we are at war. They have been programmed to labor for the enrichment of our enemies and furthered in their blindness. Millions of our people have given up, lost hope and have uncritically internalized the negative and destructive messages being sent at us twenty-four hours a day.

What can we do to counter this situation? The most radical and revolutionary thing we can do is love ourselves right here and now, just as we are. We must, as Hakim Madhubuti said, become believers in African people. We must believe in our intrinsic goodness, genius and potential. The truth is we do harbor many beliefs about African/Black people. Tragically we believe the worst about ourselves. We believe the negative.

What is no joke. It requires a brand new set of values, beliefs and behaviors. We must do things differently if we want to make a different world. We must function, act and live differently with ourselves to be our best interests. Loving one's self and believing in ourselves collectively is in everyone's best interest. Anything less is self-destructive and nihilistic. Loving ourselves and self-actualized creates an African concept of God is in our best interests. When we do this consistently despite virulent white supremacy, everyone will know we are serious and not for sale.

New Jersey Department of Human Services
Division of Youth and Family Services

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Why you suddenly need to care about area codes.

Starting November 29, 1999, everyone must dial 1 + the area code for all calls between 973 and 201, and between 908 and 732.

What's new about that? Actually, for most calls you dial between area codes you already do this. But for some people right along the 973/201 and 908/732 borders, dialing only 7 digits was required.

Now everyone will have to dial 1 + the area code for all calls to different area codes.

So, why is this happening now? Well, due to the increasing number of communications devices like fax machines, beepers, cellular phones, and computer modems, there is an ever growing demand for telephone numbers. Changing the way you dial will provide additional numbers to satisfy that demand.

Don't worry, rates aren't changing — a local call is still a local call, and a toll call is still a toll call.

Please remember to re-program any automatic dialing equipment or services you may use to dial a number in a different area code.

If you have any questions call 1-800-409-8773, M-F, 9 AM to 5 PM. Bell Atlantic is here to help. That's something that will never change.



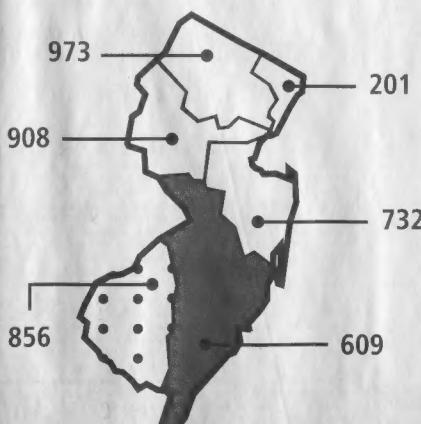
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If you live in any of the following exchanges, beginning November 29, you must now dial 1 + the area code for all calls between area codes 201 and 973: (201) 238, 253, 304, 340, 344, 365, 423, 427, 458, 465, 466, 470, 471, 472, 473, 478, 491, 522, 546, 578, 589, 591, 614, 616, 636, 688, 690, 735, 772, 773, 776, 777, 778, 779, 815, 817, 820, 831, 835, 839, 849, 916 (973) 221, 229, 246, 270, 291, 296, 329, 337, 342, 343, 368, 381, 405, 438, 440, 441, 457, 460, 475, 487, 488, 489, 498, 507, 508, 518, 525, 527, 528, 531, 559, 587, 641, 646, 651, 695, 703, 712, 752, 791, 794, 796, 797, 804, 807, 814, 842, 843, 845, 883, 896, 909, 931, 932, 933, 935, 939, 955, 964, 968, 991, 996, 997, 998

If you live in any of the following exchanges, beginning November 29, you must now dial 1 + the area code for all calls between area codes 908 and 732: (908) 205, 214, 220, 225, 235, 243, 246, 247, 248, 249, 258, 271, 283, 287, 293, 296, 297, 302, 321, 324, 336, 339, 340, 342, 346, 348, 356, 357, 361, 373, 381, 382, 388, 393, 394, 396, 398, 404, 417, 418, 422, 424, 428, 434, 435, 442, 445, 447, 448, 457, 463, 465, 469, 476, 484, 491, 494, 499, 509, 514, 519, 524, 529, 543, 545, 548, 549, 560, 562, 563, 572, 574, 584, 590, 594, 603, 623, 627, 628, 632, 635, 645, 648, 650, 652, 661, 667, 680, 697, 699, 733, 738, 743, 744, 745, 748, 752, 764, 767, 777, 798, 799, 805, 819, 821, 826, 827, 828, 843, 844, 846, 857, 867, 868, 871, 873, 878, 882, 885, 906, 913, 926, 932, 934, 937, 940, 943, 951, 968, 971, 980, 981, 985

(732) 204, 218, 221, 226, 231, 232, 233, 234, 252, 253, 266, 272, 276, 281, 301, 306, 317, 322, 333, 359, 412, 429, 444, 470, 474, 486, 490, 497, 518, 523, 526, 533, 546, 547, 559, 561, 575, 580, 587, 588, 593, 604, 626, 630, 644, 647, 653, 654, 655, 658, 666, 668, 685, 696, 704, 707, 709, 719, 722, 725, 731, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 766, 769, 781, 789, 791, 822, 848, 860, 862, 874, 877, 889, 894, 903, 904, 925, 931, 941, 947, 953, 956, 960, 986, 991, 992, 997



Local Briefs

Scholarship program offers college funds and international travel to high school juniors

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Nominations are now being accepted for the EF Global Citizen Awards — a scholarship program offered by student travel company EF Educational Tours. Based on student essays, EF will offer scholarships to twelve juniors — ten from the United States and two from Canada. Each student will receive \$1,000 toward their college tuition and a ten-day expenses-paid educational tour of Europe. The scholarships are designed to help students to think about their evolving roles in our increasingly global community. Applicants, who must be nominated through their schools, are asked to submit an essay describing a personal travel experience that has shown them and demonstrated their "global citizen" qualities. In addition to receiving funds for college, scholarship recipients will travel together in July on an expense-paid educational tour including London and Paris. The deadline for the application is Jan. 15, and the award ceremony will be held in April. The EF Global Citizen Program is designed to help students learn about the world and reflect EF's belief in the importance of experimental learning and in the lasting value of global perspective. To request nomination forms, mail to Global Citizen Program, EF Education Tours, One Education Street, Cambridge, MA 02141, or e-mail: scholarships@ef.com, or on the Internet at www.ef.com. The application is due February 15, 2000.

Assistant commissioner of early childhood education comes to Kean

UNION, NJ — New Jersey's top early childhood education official recently visited Kean University in New Jersey with an entire department devoted to the study of early childhood education. Margretta Reid Fairweather, who holds the newly created post of Assistant Commissioner of Early Childhood Education in the State Department of Education, attended a reception at the University's Alumni House discussing the early childhood education. Kean's Department of Early Childhood & Early Studies has 365 undergraduates and 65 graduates enrolled in the early childhood program, which covers pre-school to third grade.

Newark students "DO SOMETHING" to transform communities

NEWARK — "DO SOMETHING" team students from four schools throughout Newark recently gathered at the Alexander Street School worked on landscaping projects with Habitat for Humanity; the students at the Belmont Runyon School will prepare bags of items for families undergoing transitional DYSFs; the students at the City High School enhanced their school by painting a mural in the cafeteria; the students at the Ridge Street concentrated throughout the morning to beautify the school.

This is the second event for Newark students for "DO SOMETHING" Community's Community Coach Program. The "Community Coach Program" is an innovative school-based leadership and community service program that mobilizes specially-trained teachers designated as "Community Coaches" to teach students leadership skills and help them design and implement their own service projects to improve their schools and neighborhoods.

December Coat Drive throughout NJ

HOBOKEN — Jersey Cares, a leading volunteer organization in the state - will hold its fourth annual December Coat Drive from December 1-31. The coat drive helps thousands of homeless in the Tri-State Area. Coats can be dropped off at marked boxes at most Lewe's Cineplex Theaters and Blockbuster Video Stores. Coats can also be dropped off from December 1 to December 14 at the Hoboken Terminal and Journal Square PATH Stations. All gently used coats will be accepted. Call Jersey Cares. (973) 644-4952.

Do you have local news to share?
We want to know!
Send it to:
Local News/City News
111 Mulberry St.,
Suite 1F
Newark, NJ 07102
or call
(973) 642-4400

YWCA awards luncheon honors seven 'Women of Influence'



The YWCA of Essex and West Hudson recently honored seven women known as "Women of Influence" at its annual awards luncheon at the Vanover Manor in East Orange. The luncheon event is an effort to maintain the tradition of recognizing women who have made significant contributions to homebound seniors, working mothers, as well as all women, their families and many more. Pictured here are some of the honorees (from l-r): Dianthe Martinez, account assistant; Glenda Kirkland, executive director of Isaiah House in East Orange; Orange City Councilwoman Vivian Grant; Gloria Boeseman, professor at New Jersey City University and Rev. Mattie Moore.

Plainfield administrator accepts \$450k grant to improve downtown area



Thomas J. Morrison, III, (right) Acting City Administrator for the City of Plainfield accepts a \$450,000 grant from Union County Freeholder Chairman Nicholas P. Scutari.

PLAINFIELD — Recently Thomas J. Morrison, III, Acting City Administrator for the City of Plainfield, accepted a \$450,000 Downtown Grant for Plainfield from Union County Freeholder Chairman Nicholas P. Scutari. The Downtown Grants, a Union County Freeholder Initiative, are used specifically to make improvements in the downtown districts of their respective municipalities.

A total of five million dollars, combined, was awarded to the

communities of Plainfield, Roselle Park, Roselle, Winfield, Westfield, Fanwood, Garwood, Kenilworth, New Providence, Rahway, Scotch Plains, Summit, Union and West Orange.

"The Downtown Grant Program was one of the first initiatives that I proposed at my swearing-in ceremony last January," noted Chairman Scutari. "I'm glad that this program, unique to Union County, could go from proposal to reality in

Casino's affirmative action program is discriminatory

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — In a ruling with potentially widespread implications, an appeals court said a casino's affirmative action policy is discriminatory.

A three-judge panel of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia reinstated portions of a reverse-discrimination lawsuit filed by Karl Schurr, a stage technician at Resorts Atlantic City.

"I think it has major ramifications," said Joseph Ayella,

Schurr's attorney. "It's going to make casinos reevaluate everything."

The ruling, issued recently, is the second in a week striking down affirmative action plans relating to casinos. In the other one, a judge said the state Casino Reinvestment Development Authority's minority business set-aside policies — which guarantee work for minority-owned businesses — were unconstitutional.

Schurr, 43, of Galloway Township, sued Resorts and the state Casino Control Commission in 1996 after a minority candidate was hired for a job that he had filled in on. Schurr,

who was what is known as a "casual employee," was hired to fill in for full-time employees when they are sick or on vacation. In 1994, Schurr applied for two candidates vying for a job as a full-time lighting and sound technician. He is white, the other candidate was black. The black man was hired because Resorts officials believed the casino commission's Equal Employment and Business Opportunity Plan required them to hire a minority, according to the opinion. Schurr continued working at Resorts but he filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which granted him the right to sue the casino commission and Resorts.

The casino commission was subsequently stricken from the case as a defendant.

"The regulations set employment goals and place administrative pressure upon casino licensees to meet these goals," Judge Carol Los Mansmann wrote in the 22-page opinion. "The challenged goal-based regulations ... clearly have the practical effect of encouraging discriminatory hiring."

Changes in benefit rates for workers in New Jersey in Y2K

TRENTON — Commissioner Mel Gelade of the New Jersey Department of Labor recently announced annual changes to maximum weekly benefit rates and eligibility standards under the Unemployment and Temporary Disability Insurance and Workers' Compensation Programs for the year 2000.

Changes are required by legislation governing the operation of these programs which stipulates that maximum weekly benefit rates, eligibility standards and the taxable wage base be indexed to the statewide average weekly wage.

The average weekly wage rose by 5.3 percent to \$757.08 in 1998 from

\$719.15 in 1997.

Effective January 1, 2000, the maximum weekly benefit payable to eligible unemployed workers since claimants will increase from \$407 to \$429. Also, effective January 1, 2000, the maximum weekly benefit for State Plan temporary disability will increase from \$381 to \$401 and the maximum weekly benefit rate for temporary disability, permanent

total disability, permanent partial disability, and dependency under the Workers' Compensation Law will increase from \$539 to \$563.

Under the Unemployment Insurance Program, an individual's weekly benefit amount for unemployment insurance is computed as 60 percent of earnings during the base period, up to a maximum of 56.23 percent of the statewide average weekly wage. The base year normally consists of the last five completed calendar quarters preceding the filing of the claim. Optional base years to take into account more recent earnings for those who fail to qualify are also available.

In order to be eligible to receive unemployment or temporary disability benefits, a claimant must have worked in at least 20 "base weeks" in covered employment in the preceding year. The amount of earnings required to establish a base week will increase to \$152 as of January 1, 2000 from \$199's \$144. The base week amount is computed as 20 percent of the statewide average weekly wage.

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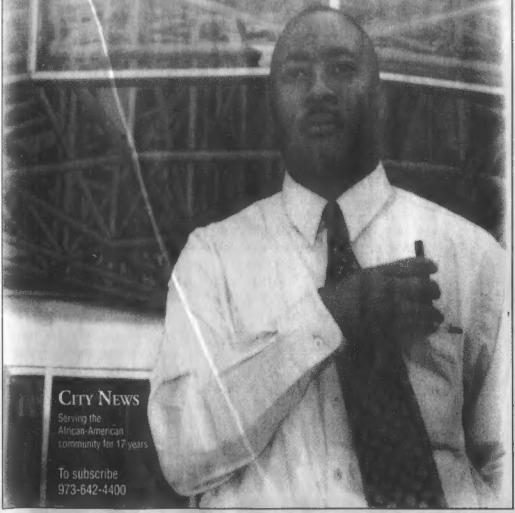
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CITY NEWS

Being a reporter for City News allows me to interact with the people. I think I provide a service by telling stories that people are concerned about. My favorite story was about friends, all of whom grew up together and after years, remain close and support each other.

Jean Pierre
Staff Reporter



CityLife

HUD presents 'My Neighborhood' photo exposé winners

Photography contest reveals talent in youth from public housing across the state

By Kelly Foster
Correspondent

In an effort to generate positive images of public housing in the general population, the US Department of Housing (HUD) and Urban Development and the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment (NAHRO) collaborated this past summer to sponsor a photography contest for young public housing. The program culminated in an awards ceremony, in which thirty winners were honored at the Newark Museum on Saturday, November 13.

Using disposable cameras, one hundred and twenty children, aged 11-17, submitted two hundred and sixty-five photographs representative of the theme "My Neighborhood." Six professional photographers from different organizations judged the thirty winning entries. The winners each received a \$100 US savings bond. All entrants received certificates of participation.

The purpose of the contest was not only to raise awareness about public housing, but to encourage creative activity, and to increase self-esteem among the children. "This event gives the public a better idea of the talent that lies in public housing," says Robert Kaplan, Community Builder at HUD, adding that people often have negative connotations of public housing. David Gardner, Executive Director of the Morristown Housing Authority agreed enthusiastically: "We have seen some of the most creative and bright children in New Jersey in public housing."

The program commenced at 6 p.m. in an intimate reception area of the museum, where brightly colored paintings adorned the walls and plants decorated each table as centerpieces. While guests feasted on a tasty hors d'oeuvre buffet, the choral group Coro Municipal de Colonia rendered musical selections. Diane J. Johnson, New Jersey Coordinator of HUD, and Jack Warren, President of NAHRO, presented awards to the appreciative winners. Afterwards, guests were invited to view the photography exhibit and tour the museum galleries.

The recipients were eager to speak about their creations and future aspirations. Leah Bell took a photo of old buildings about to be demolished to usher in new townhomes. Bell thought the buildings were important to the neighborhood and the Jersey City community. Ariel Hemphill, of Jersey City, submitted a picture of a girl on a bicycle. She thought of the idea because kids in her neighborhood are constantly engaging in physical activity. In the future, Ariel would like to enroll in the Army. Chiquuan Staples, of Jersey City, took a photo of the clouds and sky. He took his photo because of the beautiful scenery, he says, but it also reminded him of death. "It's like the clouds are dead," he says. "It's like the clouds are dead." Leah Mann, mother of Bergen County resident, Joni Leah Mann, expressed her approval of the program. "It's an excellent way for the kids to do something constructive for the summer. You hear such negative things about public housing, but this is a good thing I was so excited when I got the award letter."



Attendees look over program booklet at an event which proved to be rewarding for recipients and housing authorities across the state.



Wadiya Wilson from Newark was a winner in "My Neighborhood" photo contest. Her photo depicted the innovative fun of children playing on poles.

Photos by Dominic Forasca



Admirers of the photo exposé gaze at the award winning collection on display at the Newark Museum



Representing Wildwood as a winner was Carlos Rojas, who is standing next to one of the photos on display



Coro Municipal de Colonia choral group provided all those who were in attendance with a variety of musical selections that were aimed to please

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To get more information, or to inquire about a presentation on New Jersey Energy Choice for your community organization, call **1-800-706-PSEG** or visit us at www.pseg.com



HeartBeat

City News B3

December 1 — December 7, 1999

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

NEWARK — The Family Treatment Center at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center hosts a special World AIDS Day event entitled "A Decade of Caring: Celebration." 11 a.m. (973) 326-7175.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for parents of who have children in the Newark Innovative Care Unit (NICU). 7 p.m. (732) 745-8875.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for adults with diabetes. 7:30 p.m. (732) 745-8800.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for people addicted to nicotine. 3:30 p.m. (732) 307-6050.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for people who have lost loved ones. 7 p.m. (732) 745-8855.

BELLEVILLE — The Cancer Clinic hosts a discussion and workshop on adult psychiatric status of blacks grown up. 1 p.m. (973) 251-1461.

PLAINFIELD — Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for people living with cancer at the Jewish Community Center. 7 p.m. (908) 668-2247.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

FANWOOD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County and Plainfield Area holds a blood drive at Farwood Presbyterian Church. 8:30 a.m. (908) 353-2500.

SCOTCH PLAINS — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County and Plainfield Area holds a blood drive at St. Bartholomew Church. 8 a.m. (908) 353-2500.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital hosts a workshop on looking and feeling better for women undergoing cancer treatment. 1 p.m. (201) 833-3186.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for women with breast cancer. 7 p.m. (732) 745-6688.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

PLAINFIELD — Union County Cancer Screening Program offers cancer screenings for women 40 and over at the Plainfield Center of Planned Parenthood. 9 a.m. (908) 539-9580.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for caregivers of cancer patients. 7 p.m. (732) 745-8800.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Bar Foundation hosts a seminar on domestic violence at the New Jersey Law Center. 7 p.m. (732) 937-5158.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients. 6 p.m. (201) 951-2000.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Bar Foundation hosts a free seminar on learning long-term health care at the New Jersey Law Center. 1 p.m. (732) 937-7518.

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a discussion on osteoporosis. 6 p.m. (732) 937-6011.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a support group meeting for women who breastfeed at Homecare America store in Somerset. 3:30 p.m. (732) 745-8800.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County and Plainfield Area holds a blood drive at South Plainfield High School. 8 a.m. (908) 353-2500.

EDISON — JFC Medical Center offers a course in fatherhood for new fathers. 5 p.m. (732) 321-7000.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital offers a two-day support program for people living with cancer and their caregivers. 11 a.m. (201) 833-5165.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

NEW BRUNSWICK — Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital offers a course in healthy eating to a better heart. 10:30 a.m. (732) 937-8820.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

NORTH PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County and Plainfield Area holds a blood drive at Holy Cross Episcopal Church. 9 a.m. (908) 353-2500.

National Urban League: Health, educational disparities for blacks

By Paul Shepard

WASHINGTON (AP) — While unemployment among blacks is down to its lowest level in history, the rate is still about twice that of whites.

That sobering finding in the National Urban League's annual "State of Black America 1999" report issued recently sums up the basic tenet of the 247-page tome: the situation is getting much better for America's 38 million blacks, but there is plenty of room for improvement.

"For many indicators, the health of African Americans is the best it has been in absolute terms," said William Spriggs, editor of the report. "But we are still seeing gaps between white and black."

In an essay within the report titled "The Cancer Gap: Research Needs of African Americans," author Brian D. Smedley writes that while biological factors may contribute to black men having the highest cancer rates among industrialized nations, other contributing factors range from a lack of fresh, healthy foods in inner cities to the way doctors treat them. For example, studies show blacks receive less aggressive treatment from doctors compared with whites. And people in urban settings are more likely to see advertising for tobacco and alcohol products which contribute to health problems.

City dwellers are also more likely to live near areas with environmental hazards such as toxic waste facilities, said Smedley, senior program officer at the Institute of Medicine.

"Socioeconomic factors alone can't explain the gaps," Smedley said.

The unemployment rate for blacks hit a record low of 7.3 percent in June. It has since increased, reaching 8.3 percent



National Urban League president and CEO Hugh Price

in October for a second straight month. The unemployment rate for whites in October was 3.6 percent. Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, said: "We aren't closing that gap. We aren't addressing it. We are not eliminating it. We are not closing it."

Education is another area the report points to show that while some improvement is taking place for blacks, the situation is far from perfect. For example, while students used to train whites in the rate of completing high school but had narrowed to where they are nearly even. But when it comes to test scores, black children still trail their white counterparts.

National Urban League President Hugh Price said

urban school districts need better-trained, better-paid teachers. The divide in test scores between white and black students will ever be bridged.

High teacher quality must be eliminated before we crack down on the young people. Price said.

He said recent studies show that in New York, for example, teachers in urban schools not only had fewer certified teachers but scored lower on state certification tests than their counterparts in the suburbs. City school teachers also were 25 percent less than their suburban counterparts, he said.

"...we've got to professionalize the question in this country," he said.

The first Urban League

report was published in 1974

Store donates a dollar for every tree bought for breast cancer research

PHILADELPHIA, PA — For the second consecutive year customers and employees of 33 Pennsylvania and New Jersey Frank's Nursery & Crafts stores, are participating in a program to help find a cure for breast cancer. For every fresh cut Christmas tree sold at the Frank's stores, Frank's will contribute \$1.00 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the largest national foundation that focuses only on breast cancer.

Frank's is one of the largest sellers of Christmas trees in the country. All 257 Frank's stores are participating in the fund raiser. A significant portion of

the money contributed stays in the local community to help fund and loved ones fighting the disease today, with the remainder going toward cancer research.

Frank's will promote the effort to heighten public awareness over the next several weeks through their circulars, newsletters, advertisements which will reach over 22 million people. Breast Health informational flyers are being distributed at all the local Frank's Nursery & Crafts stores.

The nation's premier specialty lawn, garden and Christmas retailer, Frank's Nursery & Crafts stores are located throughout the state.

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Nancy Brinker, founding chairperson and sister of the late Susan G. Komen, said "We

truly appreciate the on-going commitment by Frank's employees and customers in increasing the awareness of this deadly disease and the financial support that aids the foundation to find a cure."

Breast cancer is the No. 1 killer of women aged 35-54. The Frank's promotion means other awareness and provides a positive impact on a local and national level for this serious health concern.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Center of Planned Parenthood to host free women cancer screening

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Center of Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey (PGPNJ), in conjunction with the Union County Cancer Screening Program and the Plainfield Division of Health, will offer cancer screenings for women 40 and over on Tuesday, December 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 123 Park Avenue, Plainfield.

The screening includes a Pap test, mammogram, blood pressure check and cancer prevention information, and will be given at no charge to Union County women over 50 without insurance.

An appointment is necessary. For further information, and to make an appointment, please call the Plainfield Center at (908) 756-3736.

City News

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NJ KID CARE



Brandon Connors

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

NEW YORK — The Hope Delphic presents jazz singer Freddie Cole through Dec. 5, 9:30 p.m. (212) 332-7400.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents Collins performing holiday songs. 8 p.m. (732) 246-7485.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and the American Repertory Ballet production of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker." 7 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

NEWARK — Club E presents jazz band New Directions. 8 p.m. (732) 642-2244.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Philharmonic Orchestra of New Jersey performing Handel's "Messiah." 7:30 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

NEW JERSEY — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents legendary pianist Emanuel Ax. 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

SOUTH ORANGE — The Summit Chorale presents "Saints" Christmas Concert featuring the Lakeland Youth Symphony at Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church. 8 p.m. (973) 762-8496.

RAHWAY — The Arts Guild of Rahway presents an art exhibit on the human presence. 1 p.m. (732) 381-7511.

MADISON — The New Jersey Shakespeare Festival presents the family holiday show "A Christmas Whistle in Whales" at the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theater. 7:30 p.m. (973) 408-3807.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents the classic Gershwin musical "Porgy and Bess." 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. (732) 246-7485.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra performing holiday favorites. 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra performing holiday favorites. 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. with the NJ Community Chorus for a gospel celebration. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

PLAINFIELD — The Summit Chorale presents "Saints" Christmas Concert singing favorite Christmas carols featuring the Lakeland Youth Symphony at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

NEWARK — Club E presents "Jazz band The Effect, part of the Thursday Jazz" 8 p.m. (973) 642-2244.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

RAHWAY — The Arts Guild of Rahway presents "Jazz '99" featuring Mary Elton and the Savoy All Stars. 8 p.m. (732) 381-7511.

NEW YORK — Veteran actor Keith David brings his cabaret act to the Hotel Delmonico through Dec. 15. 9:30 p.m. (212) 333-0413.

WOODBRIDGE — The Woodbridge Township Cultural Arts Commission of the Barron Arts Center presents an unique gospel concert featuring St. Benedict Prep Gospel Choir at St. James Episcopal Church. 7:30 p.m. (732) 634-0413.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents comedian Bennie Mac. 7:30 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

BROOKLYN, NY — The Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) presents "The Ring Idea" Davenport. PM. 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. (718) 635-4194.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra presents opera singer Samuel Ramey. 3 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

WATCHING — The Watchung Arts Center presents vocalist Barbara Lee and pianist Keith Ingman. 8 p.m. (908) 753-0190.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

NEW YORK — The Beacon Theater presents Bobby Caldwell and Patti Austin. 8 p.m. (212) 496-7870.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

TRENTON — The War Memorial Theater presents the award winning production of production of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker." 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. (732) 248-1254.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

NEW YORK — Mid-American Productions presents bassist Eugene Levinson at the Will Recital Hall located inside Carnegie Hall. 8 p.m. (212) 239-4699.

Shona Tucker to perform one-woman show at Ramapo

MAHWAH — "The Oral Tradition of the First Generation, a one-woman show exploring the traditional African-American story, 'The People Who Could Fly,' will be presented at Ramapo College of New Jersey Thursday, Dec. 2 at 5 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 3 at 8 p.m. in the Alder Theater.

Originally presented at the National Theater Workshop and scheduled to be performed at the Arena State's "Old Vic" at the Smithsonian, the show is directed by Maria Vail Guevara.

In this comic and astonishing tour de force, Tucker portrays a myriad of characters, from the Reverend Rudolph W. Smith to the proprietor of the Busy Bee Hot Sausage in Lagos, Nigeria. The story is an ironic look at truths about what is meant to seek one's home, examine the

accepted conventional wisdom about one's black American African roots. It is a coming of age story that is surprising, inventive, comic, and deeply touching.

The show's producer, Shona Tucker, a Schomburg Fellow at Ramapo College for the second time, previously directed "Hot L Baltimore" at Ramapo. This past year she completed a year-long study at New York University's Graduate Acting Department's Directing Program. She was awarded an Academic Scholar Grant at Miami University of Ohio and was a Fulbright Scholar for research studies in Nigeria.

As an actress, she has performed on stages across the United States and in several countries. Most recently she appeared in "Tartuffe" at the American



Shona Tucker

Courtesy of Ramapo College

Conservatory Theater in San Francisco and "Oak and Ivy" at the Arena Stage.

Her other productions have included "Henry IV" at the Joseph Papp Public Theater, the 1991 Obie-winning "A Light Skin" at the New York Theater Workshop, "From the Mississippi Delta" at Circle in the Square, and "Marvin's Room" at Playwrights Horizons.

Her television and film credits include "Third Watch," "Trinity," "Boys on the Side," "Alice," "The Life to Live," "Home Undercover," and "Law and Order."

She received her Bachelor's of Science from Northwestern University and her Master's in Fine Arts at New York University. For information, call 654-6744.

The State presents Porgy & Bess

The State Theatre in New Brunswick will present the acclaimed play "The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess" Saturday, December 4. The play is directed by Will Roberson and presented by Living Arts Inc. as part of a national tour of the play. For more information, telephone (732) 296-7469.

Public service film brings national focus to homeless situation

Filmmaker Ken Kimmelman

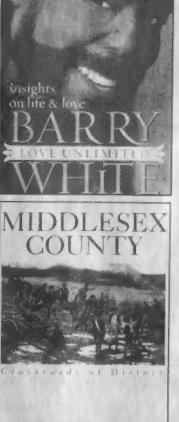
"What Does a Person Deserve?" is a new public service film by Emmy Award winning filmmaker Ken Kimmelman to bring national focus to the people who suffer from homelessness and hunger.

The film, first broadcast on the Bravo Network, and worldwide via NBC satellite, will be airing on WPIX, WNBC, and WNYL. It is currently playing at multiplex theater in Hadestown. This film it opened at the United Nations Association Film Festi-

val at Stanford University.

The film deals with the question first posed by poet and philosopher Eli Siegel, founder of the Aesthetic Realism. Through moving black-and-white photographs, these images are set to music composed by Edward Green.

"I hope this film really gets into the hearts and minds of the American people unforgettable. My purpose is to help end homelessness and hunger," said Kimmelman.

For the Bookshelves of African Americans

Love Unlimited: Insights on Life and Love Barry White with Marc Elliot (Broadway Books)

This new book by R.E.M. phenomenon shares his own rags-to-riches story, along with his philosophy on loving relationships and romance, success and prosperity, and awesome music-making.

White recalls his rough road to fame, a childhood with his single mother in South Central, his gang affiliation, juvenile criminal experience, and his eventual legendary career.

Middlesex County Roads of History Gary Karasik and Anna B. Aschkenasy

This coffee-table reference book chronicles historic details centered on Middlesex County — for instance the first black man to vote in the United States was Thomas Mundy Peterson following the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment, according to the highly illustrated book. A historian and author, Paul Robeson is featured, while detailing his accomplishments. A colorful mural of John Henry Lloyd a deft, shortstop in the Negro League adds to the images, along with the award-winning Crossroads Theater.

24 Reasons Why African Americans Suffer Jimmy Dumas (African Americans Images)

How could a population with almost 40 million people, 500 billion dollars, two million college graduates, 100 Black colleges, and 85,000 churches with assets of 50 billion dollars who annually raise three billion dollars suffer so much? This book will enlighten black readers on why we suffer.

Lay This Body Down Gregory A. Freeman (Lawrence Hill Books)

This book explores the operation of the church in the 1920s, through the isolated narrative of the John S. Williams plantation in Jasper County, Georgia. This book takes an intriguing look into the murder of eleven black men who could testify to this, and how these men were forced to kill each other and the awful way they died.

NJ PAC



SAVION GLOVER SAT, DEC 18

PERFORMANCES

Friday, December 17

OPENING CELEBRATION & CEREMONY

Featuring Kourou Mingy and Unjima and Usama Dance Companies plus Honoree Recipient, Darington Jones, Gil Hodson and Michael Jackson

Perform once at Victoria Theater 7:30pm Reception at the Rehearsal/Banquet Hall 5:00-6:30pm

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

December 16 - 17 • 5:00-10:00pm

December 18 • 12:00-10:00pm

Prudential Hall Lobby

MARKETPLACE OPENING CELEBRATION

December 17 • 5:00-10:00pm

Join us for a jazz concert featuring The Bradford Hayes Sextet while you browse through a vendor's marketplace featuring jewelry, books, art and other items.

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Saturday, December 18

ARTS & CRAFTS VILLAGE

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AFRICAN DANCE CLASS WITH CANDACE HUNDLEY

An introduction to African rhythms and dance movements.

Class will feature performances by Unjima and Usama Dance Companies.

Rehearsal/Premiere Hall • 5:30-6:00pm

Kwanzaa Traditions

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From New Jersey Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Community Room • 1:30 - 4:00pm

STORY ROOM

Listen to African stories from our storytellers featuring

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Community Room • 1:30 - 3:30pm

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*Please note that programs, artists, dates and times subject to change.

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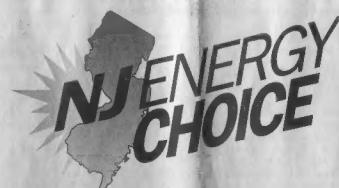
January 1, 2000 ushers in more than just a new millennium. It signals your ability to choose a Natural Gas Supplier, which could mean greater savings for you. Last summer, consumers first experienced the benefits of New Jersey Energy Choice with greater savings on their electricity rates and the ability to choose their Electricity Supplier. Now, these benefits apply to your natural gas service.

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CitySports

December 1 — December 7, 1999

Pacers' Harrington grows up

What a difference a year makes. In 1998, Al Harrington was the man on the high school basketball scene. The 6-9 St. Patrick's High School product was selected to play in the prestigious McDonald's All-American Game, was named the USA Today National High School Player of the Year, and was recruited by virtually every college in the country. After committing to Seton Hall (just imagine if the Pirates had Harrington), Harrington decided against playing for free and decided and became just the second player from New Jersey (Englewood's Bill Willoughby was the first) to jump directly from the prep ranks to the NBA.

After signing a multi-million dollar contract, Harrington quickly found out that he was no longer in high school anymore. In addition to being stronger, quicker, and more experienced, he discovered that his NBA peers were far more advanced than he in two other areas—mental and physical preparation. As a result, Harrington spent much of last season learning the ropes of the bench of a veteran dominated team which was making a serious push for an NBA title.

Although he didn't get much light, Harrington developed a greater appreciation for the importance of a solid work ethic from renown workers like Reggie Miller, Dale and Antonio Davis, Chris Mullin and head coach Larry Bird. So he sat, watched and absorbed and concluded the year with paltry season averages of 2.1 points and 1.9 rebounds per game.

This year is another story. Rededicating himself to the game, this summer Harrington worked hard on his game, dominated the Jersey Shore Basketball League, and arrived at the Pacers training camp with a more polished game, and more focused attitude. Thus far this season, Harrington is making a strong case for NBA sixth man of the year by averaging 13.2 points, five boards and two assists off the bench. His season highlights are an 18 point five rebound performance against the Houston Rockets, and a career high 19 points against the Orlando Magic. The Pacers won both games. Expect to see much more Harrington highlights on ESPN Sportscenter as this kid continues to mature.

Plainfield's Jason Williams

Did you get a chance to see Plainfield's Jason Williams who is currently Duke's starting point guard. Although he was somewhat shaky in his first two games against Stanford and Connecticut, he did exhibit the skills which made him one of the most coveted high school players in America. As he gains more experience, don't be surprised if a Duke plays a starring role in a Duke run for the NCAA tournament.

City News gives you the 4-1-1 in sports. If you have sports news or photos you care to send, mail them to:
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Sports legends and celebrities salute former Sen. Bill Bradley

NEW YORK — At one of the most unique campaign events ever, Bill Bradley returned to Madison Square Garden recently where friends and supporters paid tribute and showed their support of his bid for president.

Bradley was surrounded by former New York Knicks teammates Willis Reed, Walt Frazier, Earl Monroe and Dave DeBusschere as well as legends Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Bill Walton, Nate Archibald, Julius Erving, New York Liberty star Rebecca Lobo, R&B sensation Luther Vandross and actor Harvey Keitel, who have pledged their allegiance to the Bradley campaign.

Complete with cheerleaders, highlights film and fans waving hand-made signs of support, the Bradley for President "Back in the Garden" fund-raiser drew a crowd of over 7,500. Former opponents and Bradley's political foes, as well as himself offered testimonies about Bradley's on-and-off-the-court prowess, and the candidate himself reiterated his goals of racial unity, health care for all Americans and combating poverty among children.

"I think Bill [Bradley] will make an excellent president," said State Senator Ronald L. Rice. "I've been working with him over the last 18 years or so and I'm familiar with his skills and abilities to bring people together. It's been a long time since we've had a president from New Jersey."

While much of the excitement was fueled by the presence of some of the world's greatest athletes and memories of their glory days, they focused on Bradley's character and leadership more than his athleticism.

Willis Reed, Nets executive and former NBA league leader, said:

"I've known Bill since 1964 when we competed together in the Olympic trials. He is a genuine person who judges people by their character and their deeds rather than the color of their skin. Bill is one of the hardest working, most intelligent men I know. I like him as president because he's been that way since 1964. It's not a persona he has put on to run for president."



Bill Bradley (left) gets a hello hug from former teammate Willis Reed.

Life at Notre Dame tough for black football players

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) —

Safety Deke Cooper doesn't stand out among the members of Notre Dame's football team, most of whom are black.

It's not that Cooper is the only black student, a fact that came as a shock when the junior from Evansville first arrived on campus.

Notre Dame officials acknowledge that students feeling black students feel on an overwhelmingly white campus, and say they have taken steps to ease it.

Only three of Notre Dame's more than 10,000 students are black. Of 83 players profiled in Notre Dame's 1999 football media guide, 48 are black, or 58 percent.

Besides the winning tradition, national TV exposure and high number of students in the room of the reasons black players choose Notre Dame is its graduation rate. In a 1998 report by the NCAA, using data for athletes who enrolled from 1984 through 1991, Notre Dame's graduation rate for black athletes was 32 percent, ranking the school third behind Duke and Stanford.

Adjustments to campus life can especially be hard on black football players because of the social isolation. Five players — all of them black — left the team since the Aug. 7 opening of practice.

Only one, tailback Darcey Levy, left voluntarily, dissatisfied with his playing time. Cor-

nerback Brock Williams was suspended after pleading guilty to alcohol-related charges in the off-season and accumulating too many game penalties. Last fall, starting quarterback Eric Chapell was kicked off amid allegations that he sold complimentary tickets. Cornerback Lee Lafayette is spending the semester concentrating on a degree in Talmud. Tom Donahue was suspended for violating the school's rules governing visitation by the opposite sex in dorms.

"The athletes are looked at something like an idiot. There's a lot of racism in it," said Iris Outlaw, director of Notre Dame's Office of Multicultural Affairs. "Even when they don't want to be visible, they are. They are held to a higher standard."

Outlaw said her office tries to foster a sense of community for those who might feel displaced. For students who aren't Catholic, an attempt is made to find churches that will transport students for Sunday worship.

Football coach Bob Davie has encouraged parents to accompany their sons on recruiting trips so they get an idea of what Notre Dame is like. Davie also has relied on the recommendation of faculty before offering scholarships.

The team also has a "big brother" plan in which freshmen are assigned upperclassmen to counsel them.

Lennox Lewis wants to fight Mike Tyson

By Mark Schneider

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Tyson is the man Lennox Lewis wants to fight.

Lewis, the newly crowned undisputed heavyweight champion, said recently he respects Tyson, the former champ, and has sympathy for "his trials and tribulations," but that's not the main reason he wants a bout with him.

"It is the most exciting fight out there," Lewis said. "He has that power, that punch."

A Lewis-Tyson fight is far from imminent, though, according to Lou DiBella, who heads boxing for HBO. "The end of next year at the earliest," he said.

With Lewis, who will have to wait 18 months to fight the former heavyweight champion, even if it means Tyson's skills would be further diminished?

"Yes, and they will be," the British fighter said.

The British fighter said his

motorists after a minor accident.

He was also suspended for biting Evander Holyfield's ears wants to fight.

"He is a man who used to be great trying to get his life in order," Lewis said. "He's gone through some bad times, but he's married now, and he's gotten away from people like Don King."

Lewis said a fight with Tyson would sell because it presented questions the champion believed fight fans would pay to see answered.

"At the right time, the fight will happen," said Shelly Finkes, Tyson's manager, when told of Lewis' comments.

Lewis is under contract to HBO to fight Tyson to Showtime, but that cable TV conflict would present no problem that couldn't be solved, according to Seth Abraham of HBO. Tyson isn't the only fighter who has a shot at Lewis. Heavyweights Michael Grant and knockout artist Andrew Golota in the 10th round last week, and David Tua has a shot as well.

New league eyes NBA as partner

By David Ginsburg

BALTIMORE (AP) — Oscar Robertson, Ralph Sampson and Bernie Bickerstaff were delighted to meet. Even Cal Ripken bought into the idea.

The International Basketball League has been successful in attracting the money and services of several notable sports figures. Gaining the support of the American public might be more difficult, yet IBL officials are confident their low-budget minor league is destined to flourish.

The eight-team IBL opens its inaugural 84-game season Friday, when referees toss up the league's signature black basketballs in Baltimore, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Las Vegas. New Mexico, Richmond, Va., San Diego and Trenton, N.J. open on the road.

The IBL has no intention of competing with the NBA. Its goal is to develop a new, great minor league system affiliated with the NBA, Trafton said. "We would love to provide them with the talent they want, not just with players but with referees, general managers, coaches and even trainers."

That is not, however, a goal of the NBA, at least in the short term.

"We wish the IBL very well for their season," Russ Granik, NBA deputy commissioner, said. "Our plan this year, however, is to continue our relationship with the CBA."

The IBL is the brainchild of Arthur Ciapriani, who became co-director of National Gas Clearing House in 1985. In 1996 he began startup operations for the IBL.

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